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APHIS and FAS Efforts Result in U.S. Seed Potato Market Expansion

Report Categories:

Export Accomplishments - Other

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Report Highlights:

After successful negotiations between The Thai Department of Agriculture and APHIS and FAS/Bangkok, ten additional U.S. States are now eligible to export seed potatoes into Thailand. This market expansion will result in seed potato exports to Thailand of US\$ 250,000-500,000 in 2011-2012.

After several months of negotiations between the Thai Department of Agriculture (DOA) and APHIS and FAS/Bangkok, Thai authorities have agreed to include additional ten U.S. States for export eligibility of seed potatoes into Thailand. This comes after Thai authorities conducted a systems approach audit in non-approved areas in July 2010. On January 4, 2011, the Thai DOA issued its notification on the eligibility of the ten additional U.S. states to export seed potatoes which became effective on February 4, 2011, when it was published in the Royal Gazette. In addition to California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, the new states that are now eligible to export seed potatoes include Colorado, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Due to this development, the U.S. becomes a promising alternative supplier and its seed potato exports to Thailand may reach US\$ 250,000-500,000 in 2011-2012.

From 2008-2010, Thailand imported seed potatoes from the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Netherlands, China and New Zealand without the presence of supplies from the U.S.

Thailand Import Statistics							
Commodity: 070110, Potatoes Seed, Fresh Or Chilled							
Year To Date: January - December							
Partner Country	Unit	2008		2009		2010	
		USD	Quantity	USD	Quantity	USD	Quantity
World	KG	3,225,850	4,580,310	3,563,662	4,344,646	4,851,903	6,751,265
United Kingdom	KG	1,613,928	2,235,525	1,624,503	2,016,500	1,825,133	2,134,125
Canada	KG	113,450	141,000	341,946	504,000	1,499,814	1,786,000
Australia	KG	937,635	1,104,500	1,156,322	1,273,065	771,466	729,010
Netherlands	KG	351,682	375,050	279,540	242,850	472,323	518,030
China	KG	53,361	541,700	43,781	164,231	198,871	1,490,100
New Zealand	KG	76,075	62,675	117,570	144,000	84,296	94,000
Philippines	KG	79,216	117,500	0	0	0	0
Myanmar	KG	503	2,360	0	0	0	0

Figure 1: Thai Authorities Conducting Audit in Maine



Figure 2: Discussion with APHIS officials and Ag Extension Personnel in Wisconsin



End of Report.